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**INFORMATION REPORT**

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COUNTRY Germany (Russian Zone)  
SUBJECT Communist Methods of Insuring Success of the People's Initiative (Volksbegehren)

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SUPPLEMENT TO REPORT NO.

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1. Delegates from all Kreis preparatory committees for the Volksbegehren in Brandenburg met in Potsdam 8 May for instructions. The leading role in the Volksbegehren is to be played by the PDGB. The latter is reorganizing its famous Volkskontrolle committees to insure that everyone signs up for the Volksbegehren. To give these committees a non-partisan appearance, two additional representatives, each from the CDU, LDP, and non-party organizations, have been added.
2. One control committee will be assigned to each urban and rural precinct and provided with a list of all persons resident or employed in the precinct. These lists will be checked against the lists of signers; people who fail to sign up promptly will be called upon by so-called visiting squads which will remind them of their duty; citizens failing to heed this warning are to be entered on a public list of "saboteurs of democracy". Cooperation is expected to be practically one hundred per cent.
3. In Dresden SED leaders informed local clergymen that it is their duty to campaign for the Volksbegehren from the pulpit. Those who objected to compulsion were informed that all citizens who fail to sign up for the Volksbegehren are to be publicly branded as traitors.
4. Doctors in Dresden were summoned to the Council of Physicians and instructed that they must register in favor of the Volksbegehren. Several doctors objected whereupon they were told that refusal would cost them their license. "The State Dept. of Health cannot permit further practice by physicians who are not in agreement with the Volksbegehren."
5. SED instructions to Berlin direct that the Kreise Mitte, Prenzlauer Berg, Pankow, and Treptow establish booths at the sector border where Berliners from the other sectors may sign up for the Volksbegehren. The Kreise in the other sectors where the Volksbegehren is forbidden are instructed to establish booths at the border between the Russian Zone and Berlin.

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~~CONFIDENTIAL~~ Comment: The SED Kreisleiter of Zehlendorf (US Sector) reported to SED Headquarters 19 May that he had set up booths in Klein-Machnow and Teltow in the Russian Zone across the border from Zehlendorf.)

6. Another source reports that elaborate arrangements have been made to transport people from the US and British zones across the border into Saxony-Anhalt and Thuringia to allow them to register for the Volksbegehren.

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